

**Commemoration Committee  
Meeting**  
June 17, 2008

**Attendance:**

Dicky Peterson, Cynthia Fountain, Fr. Bill Scafidi, Rev. Byron Williams,  
Yaniyah Pearson, Pamela Krizek

**Absent:** Ed McCarthy, Chuck Stewart, Marge Bell

**Topic of discussion:**

Brainstorm on concepts for commemorative artwork.

The group met directly after the last Cemetery planning meeting. The ideas and concepts that emerged were exciting and out of the box. There was a good feeling around the group as we discussed the concept of circle, of renewal of life, respect and recognition of deceased brethren whose remains had been desecrated in the past.

The space in the lobby was highly recommended by Kendal Henry, Cultural and Economic Director, in a previous meeting with Yaniyah. Pictures were shared of the circular floor paintings in similar commemorations. The group embraced that idea and a conversation about commissioning artist evolved into a group agreement that a competition should be held among the high school students and that would serve to maximize community participation and promote opportunities for community education. The group felt confident that they could manage the competition and that the art work produced would be of high quality.

A commemorative park was also discussed that would hopefully be located on the front corner of the property visible to drivers and pedestrians crossing Broadway and Robinson Avenue. Scale should be considered because of the size and stature of the Broadway school building. The conversation became very creative when Dicky Peterson said that he envisioned two large hands coming up from the ground (grave) beckoning, reaching out for the living to come forth. Fr. Bill said he envisioned some type of stairs at the entrance so that one would have a sense of entering a different dimension (experience) being reshaped by the experienced and re-emerging into the world with new insight and commitment to an enlightened life (in regards to how people should be relating to one another). Others spoke about the need to keep the symbolism of the circle in the outdoor space because the circle had become a symbol for the larger work group (we always meet in a circle).

This park would also be the place where the remains removed from the cemetery would be re-interred.

Next steps would be to have a meeting with Kendall Henry to activate the designing and implementation plan.

The meeting ended at about 7:30pm